

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 09094 270852Z

14

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AGR-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

FMC-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02 DLOS-06

DOT-00 SCEM-02 TRSE-00 SCI-06 DRC-01 /074 W

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R 270750Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4914

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 9094

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, ENRG

SUBJECT: BUNKERING OIL

REF: STATE 234084

1. WHEN FOREIGN MINISTER KHALATBARI SUMMONED ME TO DISCUSS AVAILABILITY OF INDUSTRIAL RAW MATERIALS, HE ALSO WEIGHED IN STRONGLY ABOUT PROBLEM US HAVING IN PROVIDING BUNKERING OIL TO FOREIGN SHIPS, IN THIS CASE IRANIAN. KHALATBARI HAD SPECIFICALLY ON HIS MIND TWO SHIPMENTS OF WHEAT (ONE OF 700,000 TONS, ANOTHER OF 100,000 TONS) WHICH HE UNDERSTANDS ARE IN JEOPARDY BECAUSE THE US IS NOT PROVIDING THE BUNKERING REQUIRED. HE ALSO MENTIONED A SUGAR SHIPMENT. ACTUALLY THESE EXAMPLES APPEARED DESIGNED TO BE SYMPTOMATIC OF WHAT THE GOI REGARDS AS A SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM, I.E., ITS ABILITY TO TRANSPORT SUCH IMPORTANT COMMODITIES AS WHEAT AND SUGAR FROM THE UNITED STATES. SINCE THE SHIPMENTS ARE HALF ON US SHIPS AND HALF ON IRANIAN SHIPS, WE CAN ONLY ASSUME THAT THE PROBLEM ON BUNKERING OIL IS WITH IRANIAN SHIPS.

2. KHALATBARI ASKED MY GOOD OFFICES IN REQUESTING THE USG TO GIVE THE GOI "PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT" AT US BUNKERING FACILITIES. THE GOI FEELS IT IS ENTITLED TO SUCH TREATMENT IN LIGHT OF ITS WILLINGNESS TO
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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 09094 270852Z

SUPPORT THE U.S. NAVY'S INDIAN OCEAN TASK GROUP AS WELL

AS TO KEEP THE OIL FLOWING DURING THE
EMBARGO BY THE ARAB STATES.

3. WOULD YOU PLEASE ADVISE US AFTER YOU HAVE HAD AN
OPPORTUNITY TO LOOK INTO THIS PROBLEM.
HELMS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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30 JUN 2005

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